

This e-mail is from Uintah Basin Association of Governments in Roosevelt, Utah and is written by Shelley Mullins, Housing Specialist. The following is a list of my comments to your Federal Register Request For Comments/Financing for Household Water Well Systems.

1. At the Uintah Basin Association of Governments we have been doing re-hab projects for more than 10 years. Several times a year we are asked if we can help with the drilling of water wells. This funding would allow us to serve our applicants rather than turn them away. We recently drilled a well in Duchesne County and are in the process of finalizing a well to be drilled in April. We also have another one that we have submitted for approval with our only lending source. The loans are offered at a higher interest rate than your program could possibly offer.
2. I don't feel that with a program of this nature we should require leverage funding. The current funding sources are limited as to what they can be used for. They are also very limited and sporadic.
3. All of the clients we deal with in our office are very low to low income. It is not feasible to have them pay a very high percentage of the project costs. Everything should be included in their loan for a small monthly payment.
4. The operation of our office is solely through grant funding. The only way that we can provide a service to the client is by using a portion to cover our administration. On most grants that we administer, there is a 10% admin fee awarded.
5. Central Servicing Center is a very acceptable servicing option.
6. With a letter from the institution they have tried to obtain funding from. We use a Single Family Application with HUD Guidelines, but we could develop one for this project.
7. Eligible projects should include: new water wells, small buildings to cover pumps, and costs for a replacement or repair of pumps.